

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/731,627

Examiner

Isaac N. Hamilton

Applicant(s)

OETLINGER ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08/09/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9,11,14,16-18,20 and 29-33.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's representative, Mr. Peter C. Stomma, on October 19, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 1, "for" has been deleted;

Claim 1, line 4, "for" has been deleted;

Claim 14, line 1, "for" has been deleted;

Claim 14, line 4, "for" has been deleted;

Claims 22-28 have been deleted;

Claim 29, line 1, "for" has been deleted;

Claim 29, line 4, "for" has been deleted;

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Claim 30, line 1 "for" has been deleted;

Claim 30, line 4, "for" has been deleted;

Claim 31, line 1, "for" has been deleted;

Claim 31, line 4, "for" has been deleted;

Claim 32, line 1, "for" has been deleted;

Claim 32, line 4, "for" has been deleted;

Claim 33, line 1, "for" has been deleted;

Claim 33, line 4, "for" has been deleted.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the claims describe a rail assembly supporting a blanking tool insert that has an elongated insert receiving element including an upper wall and a lower wall that define a cavity therebetween receiving a portion of the blanking tool insert therein, wherein the elongated insert receiving element further including

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a mounting leg depending from the lower wall, and a jaw element being movable between a clamping position for retaining the mounting leg and a release position.

Swenson (2,637,249) teaches an insert receiving element, a jaw element, and a cavity, but does not teach a blanking tool insert. Sandford (6,851,243) teaches a rail assembly supporting a blanking tool insert that has an elongated insert receiving element including an upper wall and a lower wall, but does not define a cavity between the upper wall and the lower wall, and does not teach a mounting leg depending from the lower wall or a jaw element. McArdle et al (US 2005/0188805 A1), hereafter McArdle, teaches a rail assembly supporting a blanking tool insert, but does not teach an elongated insert receiving element, and does not teach a jaw element. It would not have been obvious to combine the teachings above with other prior art references in order to meet the claim limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Isaac Hamilton whose telephone number is 571-272-4509. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 8am and 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer D. Ashley can be reached on 571-272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

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may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



IH

October 24, 2006



KENNETH E. PETERSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER